

I understand that the FCC considering preempting state Telephone Privacy laws in favor of adopting one national standard.

From what I have read, the proposed national laws are less restrictive than those already in place in my home state, Indiana.

I do not support any new legislation where my household would receive more unwanted telemarketing calls. BEFORE Indiana enacted its current telemarketing laws, my household recieved anywhere from 1 to 5 telemarketing calls EACH weeknight from as early as dinnertime (5:00-6:00PM) to as late as 9:00PM. Weekends calls came all day long. We actually got more calls from telemarketers than from family and friends where it seemed like we were paying for telephone service mainly to support the telemarketing strategy of overaggressive, rude and invasive businesses. I NEVER did business with any telemarketer, and always asked them to take my number off their call lists. However, the calls continued, if not increased over previous years.

AFTER Indiana passed its laws, I recieve less than 1 or 2 calls per month. These have been from the local newspaper, county sherriff's fundraiser, and a state university fundraiser.

My 80 year-old widowed mother is now on Indiana's No Call list, and her life has dramatically improved. She is dependent upon a walker and it is difficult for her to move about in her house. Before the Indiana laws were enacted, she had to struggle to get to the phone many times each day, thinking she had a call from us, her neighbors, or doctors. Instead the calls were to sell her unwanted goods or services. Since she has poor hearing, she could often times not hear the person or the computerized recording and could not understand who made the call. Many of the live telemarketers could or would not repeat their scripts in a slower or louder voice and they would eventually hang up on her. That would frustrate my mother even more. Now, under Indiana's current laws, she could not recall a recent telemarketing call (and no, she is not senile...her mind is as sharp as a tack).

I believe that state government should have the ultimate say in such matters rather than the Federal government because I believe that decisions affecting me should be made at the most local level of government, and the state would have better control over cities and towns.

I do not want any telemarketing calls from companies where I previously done business..credit card companies, phone companies, mortgage lenders, home improvment companies, and anybody else that considers me an "existing customer." I never did business with telemarketers, and I believe their calls are annoying. Such companies most certianly cannot have a "success" rate of more than 1 household per 100 or 1000 calls placed. That translates to +99% negative response, which I believe can be considered an annoyance factor.

If the FCC does implement federal laws that supercede state laws, then those laws must not lessen any existing state laws, such as those in Indiana. IF anything, I would hope they would be MORE restrictive.

Indiana's Telephone Privacy law has DRAMATICALLY improved your time at home. As I said, from 1-5 calls per weekday and many calls on the weekend, we get less than 1-2 telemarketing calls per month.

Thank you for giving me a method to express my personal beliefs. I hope you take my comments into consideration.

Sincerely,
Rich Mroz
Avon, Indiana